

NO-TILL DRILL PROGRAM

The Douglas Soil and Water Conservation District has been promoting no-till for many years. They have continually upgraded their no-till drills to provide the cooperators with equipment that works without breakdowns. In the spring of 2009, the District will have a new Haybuster 10' drill available for rent.



New Drill Available for Rent in 2009

Rex Weinmaster has been in charge of this program from its beginning. He delivers, calibrates and assists the cooperators throughout the planting process. Each year the acres and crops planted will vary due to the weather and Government programs being offered.

Many farmers in Douglas County are now purchasing their own no-till equipment. Most of these farmers have rented the District's no-till drill equipment and have seen the benefits of no-till farming.

No-Till Crops Planted in 2008

Rye/Orchard Grass	30 Acres	Alfalfa	612.6 Acres
Soybeans	72 Acres	Pasture Grasses	99 Acres
Native Grasses	53 Acres	Clover	22 Acres
CRP	296.5 Acres	Wheat	84 Acres
Total Acres Seeded in 2008			1269.10 Acres
Total Owners & Operators Renting the Drill			61

FABRIC MULCH LAYING MACHINE

By Elwood Anderson

The Douglas SWCD has a "Fabric Mulch Machine" for weed control. This machine lays down a 6' wide strip of fabric mulch to promote tree growth by retarding weed competition in the tree rows and provide moisture retention. With this tree fabric, post-planting maintenance is virtually eliminated! We have had great success with this machine and each year more and more landowners are seeing the benefits and are requesting this as part of their tree planting project.

